

1932-present

A Bold New Capitol

Like the capitol before it, the design of the ***New State Capitol*** was meant to make a bold statement. The energy evoked by the building's Art Deco style reflected Huey Long's desire to raise Louisiana out of the bayou and into the twentieth century. The new building had its critics too, many accusing Long of building a monument to his own achievements. Whether Long's critics were right or not does not diminish the significance of the statehouse. One has only to look at the intricacies of the many architectural details to see that it was as much a place for government to work as it was a monument to the history and people of Louisiana.

Is That a Fact?

- Designed by Weiss, Dreyfous and Seiferth of New Orleans, the capitol took 13 months to complete; it was inspired by Nebraska's state house, which took 13 years to build.
- At 450 feet high, this building is the tallest state capitol in the United States (Nebraska's is 400 feet high).
- Huey P. Long never served in any capacity in the New State Capitol.
- Of Louisiana's thirteen capitols, the current one has been occupied the longest.
- In 1932, one Baton Rouge businessman bet another \$2.50 that the state capitol would still be standing in 500 years. In the year 2432, the heirs of the winner will inherit over \$2 billion.

New State Capitol



Governors serving here were O.K. Allen, James A. Noe, Richard W. Leche, Earl K. Long, Sam Jones, Jimmie Davis, Robert F. Kennon, John J. McKeithen, Edwin W. Edwards, David C. Treen, Charles E. "Buddy" Roemer, and Murphy J. "Mike" Foster.

"When a thousand years will have passed – when generations still unborn shall have the making of the laws of Louisiana – then, perhaps the towering new capitol building will have served its day of usefulness. Then it may yield to the 'march of progress'—a thousand years from now – and tumble to the earth to make way for an even more modern capitol building."

Morning Advocate, 3/22/1939